

## REMARKS

In Response to Amendment section of the final Office Action mailed December 8, 2005, the Examiner stated as follows:

Applicant mainly argues that that (sic) the Coppersmith et al. operations are performed sequentially, and each module operates with the complete result of the preceding module and that a module from the Coppersmith et al. chain does not start operating before the preceding one has terminated.

The examiner responds that the pending claims do not require starting operation of encryption/decryption module before the preceding one has terminated.

In an effort to place the pending claims in unquestioned condition for allowance over the Coppersmith et al. reference and all other references combined with Coppersmith et al., Applicant proposes the amendments to claims 1-3, set forth above, which make it very clear that the pending claims now do require starting operation of an encryption/decryption module before the preceding module has terminated its encryption/decryption.

Applicant trusts the Examiner will now see that Applicants' claims do patentably distinguish over the Coppersmith et al. reference, will enter the amendments set forth

above under Rule 116, accordingly, and then will allow all claims, as amended, over all the prior art of record.

Respectfully submitted:

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